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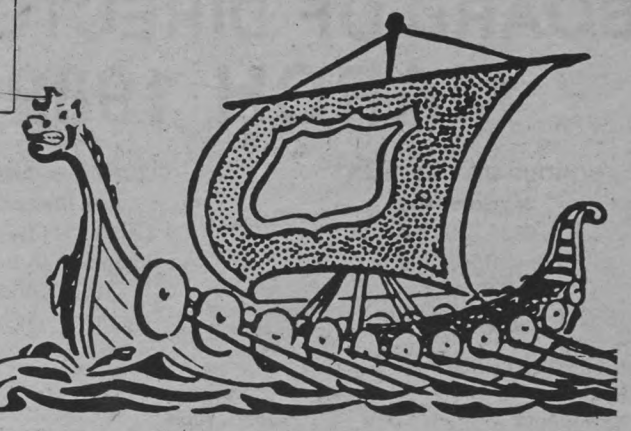
Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Vol. XIX NO. 32 Ph. 484-1007

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17614 - 107 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5S 1G8

SEPTEMBER, 1982

FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN GETTING INTO HIGH GEAR

Dear Shareholder:

The Campaign will continue until we reach our goal — $1½ million!

The eight-week campaign June 28 to August 23, 1982, announced in the brochure did not reach the goals anticipated, so the Board has decided to extend the campaign indefinitely.

The centre office reported the following results as of August 23:

188 shares for $9,400.00; 2 loans totalling $10,000; 2 donations totalling $10,100 .....total Building Fund — $29,500.

Interest in the new centre is very high —

But the money is slow coming forward. The Centre office is flooded with calls and inquiries. Many were concerned that the campaign had come to an end, and that it was too late to buy shares. Quite the opposite!

Campaign has really just begun —

To all shareholders who have sold two or more shares, our sincere thank you. A special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Folke Wicklund and to Mrs. Ada Skarin for their generous donations.

But what about the rest of the shareholders? Now that holidays are over and the children are back in the classrooms, won't you take this campaign seriously?

Each shareholder must do his or her part —

If you, as a shareholder, will sell two shares in the next week, and the two new shareholders will each sell two shares in the third week — 14 shares will have been sold.

If only 800 shareholders do likewise we will have sold 11,200 shares for a total of $560,000, and our goal of $500,000 in share sales will have been reached!

Do it this week — sell those 2 shares!

T-Shirts —

As part of our publicity campaign we have a quantity of T-Shirts — Small, Medium and Large — with the slogan "Take a Liking to a Viking, Join the Scandinavian Centre" imprinted along with a Viking head. These may be purchased at the Centre office for $8.50 each. Buy one and wear it on suitable occasions — club functions and gatherings, etc. — to help publicize the Centre.

Kurt Sorensen heads campaign for shareholder loans —

We welcome to our committee Kurt Sorensen of Commercial Electric who will head up the campaign for soliciting 200 shareholder loans of $5,000 each, to reach the loan objective of $1 million. Kurt will welcome invitations to attend and speak at club meetings; please contact him at Commercial Electric, 15925 - 121A Avenue, phone 454-2491.

Gudrun needs volunteers —

Gudrun Bublitz, our office manager, is working very hard and putting in a lot of overtime these days. As the momentum of the campaign speeds up, the work-load will get heavier and heavier. If you have some spare time, please give Gudrun a call and offer your services.

Urgently needed are telephone people to call shareholders and help them with the sale of shares. She has about 15 volunteers, but needs more.

Congratulations to the Icelandic Society for coming up with the greatest number of volunteers so far.

Draw for flight to Scandinavia —

A number of shareholders have phoned about the draw for the flight to Scandinavia. The Board is happy to announce that the lucky winner will board an S.A.S. flight to Scandinavia on July 11, 1983. The draw will likely take place about a month preceding the flight. Gudrun is anxious to get your name in the draw (your name goes in once for every two shares you sell).

Money must be in place before we can start building —

So many ask, "When do we start building?" The answer is in your hands! I have sold my two shares; have you sold yours? Let's pull together and get the job done now.

Let's have fun doing it —

You'll be surprised how much it will do for you! You will make new friends and feel good about having helped to make this new Centre a reality. And let's do it NOW.

And you are not restricted to pure-blooded Vikings..... ANYONE may join the Scandinavian Centre.

Please feel free to phone any of the members of the Fund-Raising Committee for any assistance:

Gudrun Bublitz 484-1007
Eileen Peterson 459-3706
Doug Peterson 428-8530 bus.; 466-9060 res.
Lorne MacPherson 427-2005 bus.
Kurt Sorensen 454-2491 bus.
Sig Sorenson 428-0441 bus.; 425-8261 res.

Yours faithfully
Sig Sorenson

EDMONTON'S LARGEST SMORGASBORD

by Astrid Hope

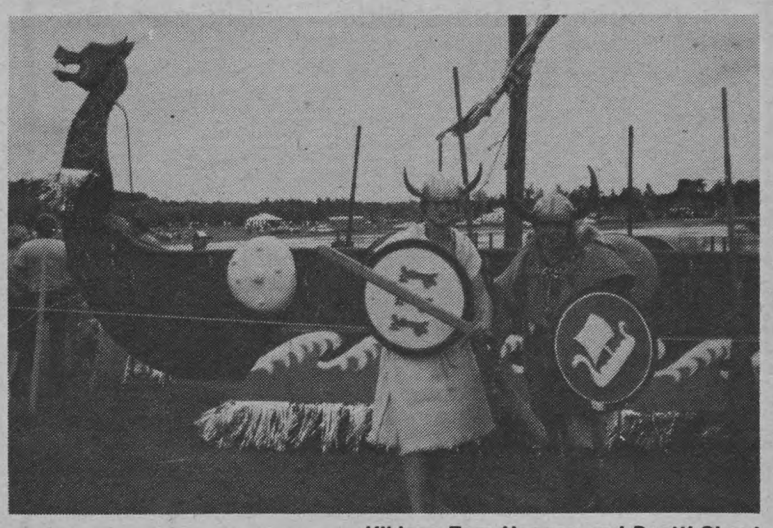
Heritage Festival on August 2 and 3 was an outstanding success!

About 300,000 people came out on two beautiful sunny days to see the "many faces of the world". There were 44 different ethnic 'faces' on hand this year, with Portugese and Guyanese participating for the first time.

It was a feast for all the senses, and approximately two hundred delicious dishes comprised Edmonton's largest smorgasbord.

We had no fewer than three pavilions, and a special premiere of our Viking boat moored beside the lake at Hawrelak Park. The proud dragon-head gave the distinct impression that the Vikings were venturing out again, as in days of old; occasionally it snorted hot 'smoke' in its impatience to be gone.

Pentti Sipari, victorious Viking



Vikings Tom Haugen and Pentti Sipari

The festival began at noon on Sunday when Premier Peter Lougheed presided at the colourful opening ceremonies, accompanied by other provincial and civic dignitaries, as well as representatives from each ethnic group.

All day long there were displays and performances of song and dance at each pavilion. An addition this year was the daily afternoon performance of senior citizens; also a first was the evening gala performance of dancing groups.

The Scandinavians went all out this year, displaying their various artifacts and demonstrating many crafts — e.g. — Susanne Balslov with pottery and Inger Paulsen with bobbin-lace. We were complimented many, many times over as having one of the finest pavilions on the grounds (that's a Viking horn blowing, too).

The model of our new Scandinavian Centre was on view, and special promotional T-shirts were sold.

International dishes were the order of the day. On circling round the pavilions one could sample such dishes as Chinese shrimp dips, German fried sausage, Scottish haggis, East Indian chicken curry, Italian spaghetti, Jewish cabbage strudel, Philipno lampia frito, Canadian Indian bannock-burgers, and on and on.... And of course, to

cont'd on page 3

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Please advise **The Scandinavian Centre News** as soon as possible of any change of address. Cut out your name and address from the front page and paste it in the space below, or print your old address. If you get your paper through another group other than being a shareholder, kindly mention this.

And then give your new address and mail to:
The Scandinavian Centre News
17614 - 107 Ave., Edmonton T5S 1G8

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Address _____

City _____

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I now receive the paper from:
☐ Scandinavian Centre (Shareholder)
☐ Danish Society
☐ Icelandic Society
☐ Vasa Lodge
☐ Finnish Society
☐ Sons of Norway
☐ Some other source

Scandinavian Centre News

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Any subscriptions, advertising, payment, change of address or other correspondence should be addressed to:
Scandinavian Centre News
17614 - 107 Avenue
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SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

BUILDING PROJECT

The working drawings and specifications are now ready for the shell of our Centre, and as soon as we have sufficient money we can start building. As of now we are on hold.

FUND-RAISING

Shares are coming in very well, but more slowly than we would like. We're optimistic though, that now the holidays are over the pace will pick up. The campaign will continue until we have enough to commence building.

So if you haven't sold your two — please do it right away and get the applications in.

DONATIONS

Donations are always welcome, and a special area of Scandinavian tiles noting the names of donors will form a prominent part of our new Centre.

HERITAGE DAYS

Our pavilion was a tremendous success! The displays were tremendous, as were the demonstrations, and they were viewed by thousands of people. Although we were in a position to sell only pastries this year we were sold out early Monday afternoon and made a profit of $3,100 for the building fund.

Our Viking ship was a great attraction, and the entertainment was enjoyed thoroughly.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped this year — and there were more than ever before.

A committee chaired by Susanne Balslov is already at work on next year's Heritage Days. If you want to join in, just let us know. It's lots of work — but it's fun too!

T-SHIRTS

We still have good quality Penman's T-Shirts in all sizes for sale at $8.50 each. Contact the office at 484-1007 to order yours.

DONATIONS

Our most sincere and heartfelt thanks to the following people who have made such generous donations:

BUILDING FUND:

Mr. and Mrs. Folke Wicklund
Mr. Sigvald Sorensen
Carl Hemmingson

NEWSPAPER

Ivy Karlstrom
Irene Campbell
Uriel Johnson
Ernst Stage
Gunda C. Wells
Astrid Hope
Marie Simonsen
Sigvald Sorensen

PHONING COMMITTEE

We are most grateful to the following volunteers:

Margaret Duncombe
Astrid Hope
Jonina Eaman
Selma Sorenson
Brinki Gudmundson
Shirley Lundberg
Helen Halldorson
Lucille Oddson
Kristjana Jones
Phyllis Vigfusson
Clara Jonsson
Jo Wetterberg
Irene Campbell
Ninna Campbell

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11741 - 95 St., Edmonton **477-3561**

EDMONTON'S LARGEST SMORGASBORD

cont'd from page 1

top all these off, Scandinavian pastries, kringle and flodeboller — all of which, incidentally, were sold out by early Monday afternoon.

Three Finnish couples together with a Swedish couple, all in their respective colourful costumes, entertained every hour with folk-dancing, while Pentti Sipari and Tom Haugen (apprenticing) supplied much merriment throughout the two days with their Viking antics and hostage-taking deliberations, both in deluxe Viking garb.

Harv Haugen was Master of Ceremonies and as well supplied lively Scandinavian music to add to the gaiety of the occasion.

Our dancing group performed superbly on the main stage at the final evening gala performance.

The festical ended with a special march of all performers into the audience, after which a myriad of bright balloons were loosed into the air.

Heritage Days is held to promote good citizenship and to share each other's culture, crafts, and food, and as well to promote understanding of the "many faces of the world", and I think it achieves this purpose masterfully, helping to create more harmony and unity in our troubled world.

The Scandinavian Centre thanks the many, many people who helped with the fine displays, the serving of the food, and the setting up of the pavilions and stage, as well as transporting equipment and supplies back and forth. It was an outstanding example of co-operation — as was the whole Festival.

Inger Paulsen demonstrates bobbin-lace

Swedish display with Bengt and Chris Osterlund

Finnish display

Danish display

Norwegian display with Astrid Hope

Icelandic display

Finnish and Swedish folk-dancers

Susanne Balslov's pottery display

Boat Christened

by Astrid Hope

On July 19th at the warehouse where it is moored, our Viking boat was christened "Sontianen" with champagne supplied by Sig and Selma Sorenson. "Sontianen" means 'water-bug' in Finnish, and the name honours a determined Finnish immigrant who built a boat on his farm in Saskatchewan and gave it that name. The story of his endeavours also appears in this paper.

Public Premiere

by Astrid Hope

Our Viking boat, the "Sontianen" made its debut in the Klondike Days Parade on July 21st. Self-propelled (thanks to Allan Nelson and Per Nielsen) the boat moved through Edmonton streets in the rain in distinct style — filled with Vikings and thralls.

A very special and sincere thanks to all those who gave up so many of their free hours to refurbish the boat and get it moving. Also a special thanks to Pentti Sipari for the beautiful Viking helmets which he made, and to Harry Huser for the outstanding dragon-head which graces the bow.

How could you not 'take a liking to a Viking'?

The fur shop
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9006 - 75 Street
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Thor Berg-Furrier,
Over 30 years
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SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE T-SHIRTS

Penman's quality cotton and polyester — all adult sizes including extra large
Feature a Viking head with
"Take a Liking to a Viking" above and
"Join the Scandinavian Centre" below
$8.50 each
Order yours by phoning Gudrun at the office — 484-1007

CHARTER FLIGHTS BEING PLANNED

— Billund-Copenhagen —

Definite plans for Charter Flights for next summer are nearing completion, needing only government approval. This year we will be flying Scandinavian Airlines, and there will be a flight out of Edmonton for three weeks' duration. The tentative date is July 11th. A four-week flight out of Calgary is set for July 5th.

If you are thinking of making the trip next summer, fill in the form below and send it to our Flight Organizer, Vera Nielsen; she'll be glad to send you all the information you need.

To: Mrs. Vera Nielsen
12424 - 141 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5L 2G5
Please send me the following information on next summer's charter flights to Billund-Copenhagen:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

POSTAL CODE: ..... **TELEPHONE NO.** .....

FINNISH FOOTNOTES

by Anja Sahuri

Although we don't have an official report on the bear-hunting expedition, I have heard that all those participating really enjoyed the trip. Maybe this will be an annual event.

- - - - -

Lori and Jaakko Rastas

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Lori and Jaakko Rastas who were married in Manitoba on June 5, 1982 at Russell Alliance Church with reception at Binscarth Hall. Both the Church and the hall were full of friends and relatives, with a special guest being Jaakko's aunt from Finland. She came especially for the wedding, where she also sang beautiful Finnish songs for the bridal couple. Among the performers during the reception were talented David Kujala and his wife.

To Lori and Jaakko Happiness all the best for your future life together.

- - - - -

Congratulations to Connie-Anne and Markku Erkvaara on the birth of their daughter on June 21, 1982, a sister for Gregory and Melanie.

- - - - -

The annual "Juhannus" picnic was again held at Hanmore Lake and it was a big success, with as many people attending as last year. "Kalasoppa" was made at suppertime on Saturday and it was the highlight of the picnic. The prize for the biggest fish went to Pauli Vanhala. Congratulations! Winners of the dart game were Ahti Heinonen in men's and Anja Sahuri in ladies' competition. (I guess the practice helped, right Ahti?) The evenings were spent by the fire singing and dancing, and everyone had fun.

- - - - -

Belated Birthday greetings and best wishes are extended from all your friends in Edmonton to Maria Utunen who travelled to Vancouver

Maria Utunen on her 70th birthday

to celebrate her 70th birthday, visiting friends and relatives at West Coast.

Maria Utunen is one of the organizing members of the Finnish Society and has been an active member throughout the years. Her baking skills are widely known and her friendly personality has won her a many lifelong friends.

Greetings also from Finnish Society. Happy 70th Birthday, Maria!

- - - - -

Linda Sipari - a fair maiden

Judy Van Es and Pasi Karsten at Heritage Days

A Big Thank You to everyone who helped at Heritage Days by organizing and manning the displays, by dancing or by taking part in any other way. Thank You All!

THE SWEDISH SECTION

by Chris Osterlund

A big thank you, and hurrah for all the Swedes who became involved in making the Swedish Section of the 1982 Heritage Days a success.

It was a pleasure to get the positive response "Javisst, naturligtris hjalper jag till," when asked if they could spare a few hours or contribute in some other way. And it is sure a lot more fun when we are many sharing the work, rather than just a few becoming exhausted and saying "never again!"

Four strong Vikings — Thomas Nyhlen, Bengt Osterlund, Tommy Roos and Toni Soderberg assisted in the Saturday preparations such as tent-raising and stage-building.

Thanks to Carina Dahlquist, Annelie Eriksson, Lars Fahlstrom, Margareta Olsson, Bengt Osterlund, Carina Pettersson, Anne Sorensen and the Swedish Consulate we were able to have a very attractive display which was admired by the many passer-bys. This year it consisted primarily of four areas of typical Swedish handicraft. The glass section depicted beautiful examples from places like Orrefors, Kosta, Boda, Lindshammar, Reymersmyre and Nybro. The pewter pieces won the interest of many people; on display were various types of wine, snaps and punch glasses.

Several antiques were to be found among the coppier pieces — all between 150 and 250 years old. The birch-bark and root samples attracted several questions. People were told how the birch-bark is peeled from the tree and then cut into strips which are made into anything from breadbaskets to handbags.

The obligatory Dala horse, as well as the Gastrikland rooster, some dolls in folk costume, and colourful books were also on display. 'Flamsk' weavings and 'Twist', as well as cross-stitch were also shown.

Special recognition is given to the following people who manned the booth, answering all the possible and impossible questions about the display and Sweden in general: Cecilia Bengtsson, Carina Dahlquist, Ann Eriksson, Hans Gors, Ewa Hage, Aino Ketonen, Noreen Markstrom, Marianne Morse, Thomas Nyhlen with girlfriend Annelie, Margaretha and Sara Olsson, Carina Pettersson, Marie-Louise Sorensen and Ingrid Takahashi.

Linnea Lodge offered to assist in getting a few people to help out in the kitchen tent. Unfortunately I don't have the names of these helpers, but it was most appreciated.

Now let's show that we Swedes can do an even better job at the 1983 Heritage Festival!

SCANDINAVIAN KITCHEN CORNER

Salads

Swedish pickled beets

Inkokta rödbetor

4 servings

- *4 pounds small beets (about 4 bunches)*
- *2½ cups boiling water*
- *1 cup vinegar*
- *1½ teaspoons salt*
- *1 cup sugar*
- *10 cloves*
- *10 peppercorns*
- *2 teaspoons horseradish*

Cook beets until tender; peel under running cold water. In a saucepan, mix hot water, vinegar, sugar, cloves, peppercorns, and horseradish. Place cooked beets in a 3 quart casserole. Pour in hot pickling mixture. Cover with plastic wrap and cool. Refrigerate overnight.

Danish pickled cucumbers

Syltede agurker

6 to 8 servings

- *3 medium cucumbers*
- *½ cup vinegar*
- *½ cup water*
- *2 tablespoons sugar*
- *1 teaspoon salt*
- *¼ teaspoon ground white pepper*

Peel cucumbers, if desired; slice very thinly into serving bowl. Combine remaining ingredients; beat with fork. Pour over cucumbers. Cover; chill at least one hour before serving.

Finnish herring salad

Rosolli

4 to 6 servings

- *1 salted regular or schmalz herring (about 1 pound)*
- *½ cup whipped cream*
- *1 tablespoon pickled beet juice*
- *½ teaspoon sugar*
- *1 teaspoon vinegar*
- *2 cups cold, cooked potatoes. coarsely diced*
- *2 cups cold, cooked carrots, coarsely diced*
- *1 (1 pound) can beets, drained and coarsely diced*
- *2 medium, tart apples, peeled, cored and diced*
- *1 large pickle, coarsely diced*
- *2 hard cooked eggs, coarsely chopped*
- *½ tablespoon finely chopped onion*
- *Parsley or watercress sprigs*

Soak herring in cold water for 24 hours; skin and fillet. Combine whipped cream, beet juice, sugar and vinegar; chill. Cut herring into cubes; combine with remaining ingredients, except parsley; mix well. Fold in whipped cream dressing. Chill. Serve garnished with parsley or watercress.

Danish herring salad

Sildsalat

6 servings

- *2 salted regular or schmalz herring*
- *3 medium cooked potatoes, peeled and diced*
- *2 small cooked or canned beets, diced*
- *1 large pickle, diced*
- *2 medium tart apples, peeled, cored and diced*
- *½ cup cooked ham, tongue or corned beef, diced*
- *2 tablespoons finely chopped onion*
- *2 tablespoons margarine or butter*
- *2 tablespoons flour*
- *1¼ cups half-and-half*
- *1 tablespoon vinegar*
- *1 teaspoon prepared mustard*
- *½ teaspoon salt*
- *Pinch of sugar*

Soak herring overnight in cold water; skin and fillet. Cut herring into ½" pieces. Combine with potatoes, beets, pickle, apple, meat and onion. Chill. Melt margarine in saucepan; stir in flour. Remove from heat; stir in half-and-half, vinegar, mustard, salt and sugar. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil and is thickened. Carefully stir into salad mixture; chill. Serve on lettuce, garnished with additional hard-cooked egg slices, if desired.

ARE YOU EXPECTING COMPANY FROM SCANDINAVIA, SUMMER 1983?

Scandinavian Canadian Friendship Association and Hans H. Kristensen Travel are arranging charterflights from Copenhagen and Billund to Western Canada in 1983 as follows:

FROM	TO	LEAVES	RETURNS	COST PER PERSON DKR.
Denmark	Edmonton	July 11	August 1	5.430.00
Denmark	Calgary	June 27	July 19	5.430.00
Denmark	Calgary	July 4	July 26	5.430.00
Denmark	Calgary	July 5	August 1	5.430.00
Denmark	Vancouver	June 28	July 21	5.830.00
Denmark	Vancouver	July 12	August 9	5.830.00

There is a discount for children between 2 and 12 years and infants under 2 travel free

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For further information, please call:

The Scandinavian Centre Travel Organizer, Mrs. Vera Nielsen, Phone 454-5438 or

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DANIA DOINGS

by the Board of Directors, Danish Society 'Dania'

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK - John Kristensen

Heritage Days 1982 have come and gone. This year's event had to be one of the most impressive displays of ethnic crafts, food and entertainment that I have ever seen. It was most encouraging to see people with ethnic backgrounds from dozens of countries enjoying and educating each other for two days at Hawrelak Park. Apparently, Premier Lougheed was also impressed, since he indicated at the festival that provincial funding for the event will not be restricted to the 6% increase recommended by the Federal Government as a guide to reducing inflation.

The Scandinavian tents and displays were crowd-pleasers. The life-size Viking ship stood docked on the shores of Hawrelak Fishing Pond, with Pentti Sipari, Finnish Society President, swinging his awesome sword at passers-by who ventured near the ship. Finnish and Swedish folk dancers performed on stage and Harv Haugen was Master-of-Ceremonies. Susanne Balslov and her pottery wheel interested hundreds of people; she also was responsible for the Viking cartoon characters who adorned the fronts of the two Scandinavian tents.

The Danish booth consisted of a display of many cultural, artistic and industrial contributions that Denmark has made to Canadian society and culture. Dania also sold flodeboller (a total of 9000) and Dania T-shirts (a total of 76). We grossed a total of $3,127.00 in sales and made a profit of $775.00 on the flodeboller alone. I wish to thank the many people who helped at the Danish display and concession, for making it an enjoyable and successful (if not hectic, at times) event: Bo Gray, Svend and Ruth Nielsen, Lili and Svend Nielsen (and son Brian), Bent Skousbol, Susanne Balslov, Paul and Darlene Zimmer (and kids), Claus Jacobsen, and Sharon, Lili and William Kristensen.

LAST BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

The following issues were discussed at the last Dania Board meeting held on August 10, 1982:

1. 1983 Calendar of Events -- We decided on the 1983 calendar of events for Dania well ahead of time in order that we can make proper bookings, etc.
2. HUB Mall International Christmas -- This year Dania will be organizing a Christmas display at the University mall during the last week of November.
3. Too-Much-Too-Soon -- The Surprise Night we had planned for September 11 is a real surprise. It isn't. We cancelled the function because we thought we would be crowding too many events into August, September and October. How's that for a surprise?
4. Casino -- The Scandinavian Centre Co-op has requested the five Scandinavian groups, including Dania, to sponsor and organize one casino a year and to donate 25% of the profits to the Centre. We are exploring this possibility.
5. Federation of Danish Associations in Canada -- If anyone is interested in reading the Minutes of the First Danish Canadian Conference held in Vancouver May 20, 1982, please contact John Kristensen at 467-1432.
6. Dania Exploring Possibility of Sponsoring Danish Soprano Singer -- We have been approached to sponsor Roma Engmann to perform in Edmonton, November 1983. Depending on the arrangements that would be necessary, we are considering this possibility.
7. 1982 Annual Meeting -- Will be held Wednesday, October 27, 1982. Watch for details.

AUGUST 29 DANIA FAMILY PICNIC

We have reserved a large space (Site 2) at Borden Park for our Family Picnic on Sunday, August 29, 1982. The park is located adjacent to the Northlands Exhibition Grounds. The picnic will start at 11:00 a.m. and end sometime in the afternoon. Bring your own food, glasss, eating utensils, beverage, and kids (of course, it is not necessary that you have kids in order to attend the picnic). We will plan to eat lunch between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. Games (3-legged race, wheelbarrow race, etc.) will commence between 1:00 and 1:30 p.m. There will be prizes for all events. Dania T-shirts will be on sale at the picnic. Map is attached to newsletter. See you there!!

DANMARK SET FRA EDMONTON

- en frisk rapport om Danmark og danskerne af Helge Krogh

STOREBALTSBRO PAA VEJ? Store danske entrepranor firmaer staar parat til at bygge en Storebaltsbro. Man er interesseret i at danne et privat konsortium med en eller flere udenlandske virksomheder, men under dansk ledelse. Okonomiminister Ivar Norgaard mener, at broen bor bygges af private, som saa i en aarrakke skal have lov til at tage bropenge. Han siger videre, at Danmarks okonomiske situation udelukker en statsfinancieret bro. Hvis Ivar Norgaard i de kommende maaneder faar tilslutning til dette kursskifte i bropolitikken, er der til efteraaret flertal i Folketinget for at igangsatte projektet.

DANSKERNES OPSPARING MEGET LILLE. Danskerne sparer mindst, viser en oversigt, der taller 24 vestlige industrilande. I 1960 opsparede danskerne i gennemsnit nasten 20% af deres disponible indkomster, men 20 aar senere - 1980 - blev der kun sparet godt 5% af indkomsterne op. Andre lande med lav opsparing er USA, Sverige og England. Lande som Italien og Japan sparer dobbelt saa meget op som danskerne.

KU KLUX KLAN I DANMARK fik ingen stor fremtid eller tilslutning. Kriminalpolitiet paa Kobenhavns Politigaard meddeler, at foreningen tilsyneladende er oprettet af to arbejdslose, som indrykkede annoncer for klanen i dagspressen. Foreningen fik kun ti ansogninger om optagelse. Ni fra pressen samt en fra en sindsforvirret person. Sagen er oversendt til statsadvokaten.

DANSK REKORDSOMMER I UDSIGT. Det ser nu ud til, at sommeren 1982 bliver en af Danmarks tre bedste i dette aarhundrede kun overgaaet af 1947 og 1955. Sommerens varmebolge ser ud til at holde sig til et stykke ind i septemper med varmegrader i begyndelsen af 30'erne hele vejen. Danskerne er id dag et solbrandt folk, men varmen folger dem i nattetimerne og forstarkes af den hoje luftfugtighed. Forleden maaltes 33 grader i Aalborg, som i ovrigt har faaet lov til at stave sit bynavn paa gammeldaws igen: Aalborg - mod i en aarrakke: Alborg.

HELGE KJARLUFF-SCHMIDT ER DOD, 76 aar gammel. Han vil isar blive husket for sine biografreklamer for OTA-Solgryn som onkel Vitalius samt for visen "Vi er alle i samme baad".

UNCLE CLAUS' CORNER - by Claus Jacobsen

25 ANNIVERSARY

Are you a Danish immigrant of 1957? Somebody thought it would be a great idea to get together and celebrate the event, to meet other 1957 immigrants and share experiences achieved over the past 25 years. If you are, or know someone, and would be interested in a casual evening this fall, please call yours truly to confirm.

Place of event depends on the number of people, date depends on a visit to Edmonton by Provst Overgaard Thomsen of Toronto, if possible.

A similar event was held in Toronto, they expected 30 people, but ended up with 100. For information call Claus at Business: 484-1950 or home: 489-1494, just leave your name and telephone number.

MULTICULTURAL PAY-TV IN ALBERTA

John Kristensen recently met with Mr. Hayne Wai, representative of World View Television Limited in Vancouver, B.C. World View Television Ltd. is licensed by the Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission to operate a Multi-lingual Pay-TV network in B.C. The service will be offered to the public through local cable companies or other licensed exhibitors. Retail rates will be set by respective exhibitors. World View in B.C. is scheduling about 400 hours a month of programming in Scandinavian, Chinese, Japanese, East Indian, Italian and English. Programming will consist of feature films, children's shows, television series, as well as local community coverage.

Mr. Wai indicated to your President that World View would like to extend this service to Alberta by February 1984. He wanted to know whether Danes in Edmonton would potentially watch several hours of Danish programming per day. John Kristensen suggested that response would be excellent by Edmonton Danes -- adults would probably enjoy Danish movies or entertainment, while children might enjoy (or be forced to enjoy by their parents) some Danish educational programming.

Please contact John Kristensen with any comments on World View's plans to extend Multicultural Pay-TV to Alberta.

NEWS FROM ANSGAR DANISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1. The cement for the basement at Ansgar Villa has been poured, which means that the building is underway.
2. Confirmation Instruction for children will commence at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, September 23 at the Church. If you have children starting Grade 8 or older), and are interested, contact Pastor Madsen at 464-7762 or or 422-8777.
3. Sunday School for children begins again for the season on Sunday, September 12. Classes will be held every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. during the service hour.

BOOKS FROM DENMARK

Dania recently received 3 books from author Peder Hove in Taars, Denmark, entitled Muld og Mennesker, Landsbybilleder, and Pilespidsen. If anyone is interested in borrowing these to read, please contact Lili Nielsen at 435-5655.

DANIA T-SHIRTS

Do you want to be the proud owner of a white and red Dania T-shirt that reads "Proud to Be a Danish Canadian"?? We already have sold 80 T-shirts, and only have approximately 100 left in seven sizes. Get your order in fast before there are none left. They will be sold at the Family Picnic on Sunday, August 29 at Borden Park, or you may phone John Kristensen at 467-1432. Shirts are $8.50 each. The T-shirt design has been created by a Dania member, and as a result, is original and will not be found anywhere else in the world.

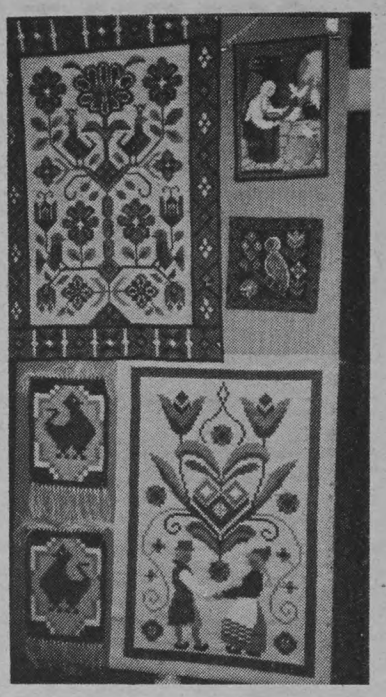
OCTOBER 23 SUPPER AND DANCE

Set this date aside. Following a long hot summer, we will all be ready for a bit of entertainment.

RETURNS COST 30¢

It is costing us a full 30¢ for each paper that we mail. Worse even than that! When a paper is returned because you have moved — it costs us another 30¢!

If you don't have the time to drop a change of address card in the mail, at least phone the office at 484-1007 and give us your new address, please.



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I enclose herewith the sum of $ ..... and agree to pay the balance as follows:

.....

.....

(the full purchase price to be paid before the expiration of one year)

No presentation or guarantees other than those contained in the Prospectus filed by the Scandinavian Centre Co-operative Association Limited have been made to me as an inducement to purchase the said share(s).

DATED at ....., in the Province of .....

this ..... day of ....., A.D. 19 .....

Purchaser's Signature .....

Witness .....

The following information is for use only in determining programs and compiling statistics as they relate to our shareholders. If you wish to leave all or any questions blank, please do so.

(PLEASE PRINT)

Full Name ..... Age .....

Address ..... Telephone No. .....

..... Postal Code .....

Do you belong to one of the five Scandinavian Societies? Yes ..... No .....

If Yes, which one .....

Ethnic Origin ..... Occupation .....

SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

by Sandra Nielsen

Evelyn and Gary Johnson and girls travelled to Delmas, Saskatchewan, to visit with Mrs. Leonne Blais, Evelyn's mother; following their visit they went camping with Gary's relatives from Saskatoon.

* * * * *

Evelyn, Michelle and Ann-Marit Johnson will be attending Cultural Camp in August. On their return the whole Johnson family will fly to Toronto where Evelyn and the girls will visit her sister, Georgette Taylor and family. Gary will continue on to Madison, Wisconsin, as a delegate to the International Convention.

* * * * *

Norm and Gwen Legaarden attended a family reunion in Abernathy, Saskatchewan. It was the first time the entire Legaarden family has been together since 1969.

Norm's family came from Ft. Smith, Arkansas, Dawson Creek, Toronto, Regina, Red Deer and Edmonton.

At the reunion Norm was presented with a picture of his father, Torsten, taken at a Sons of Norway convention in Grand Forks, N.D. — it was dated June 24 and 25, 1926!

* * * * *

Sev and Rose Berge are driving to the Maritimes for a six-week holiday beginning in September.

* * * * *

Gail and Doug Peterson and their daughter had an enjoyable vacation in Norway and Sweden. They were kept busy visiting with family and friends for three weeks in July.

* * * * *

Wally and Betty Broen will be travelling with Bea and Harry Huser to Germany for three weeks in September.

* * * * *

Barbara Broen will be competing in Sherbrooke and Montreal for 12 days with the Alberta Volleyball Team. Good luck to all of the competitors.

* * * * *

Bea and Harry Huser spent a week in Beaverlodge at a family craft camp. Harry instructed in wood chip carving some rosemaling. They later attended a family reunion in Ashmont at the home of Bea's mother, Oleana Daily.

* * * * *

Glen Huser spent a week in Saskatoon attending an English seminar.

* * * * *

Orla and Sven Tychsen enjoyed a visit from Orla's cousins from Bismarck, N.D., and Ada, Minnesota.

* * * * *

Eleanor Anderson's aunt and cousin from Victoria, B.C., were here for a visit.

* * * * *

In September Eleanor and Anders Anderson will attend the graduation ceremonies for their son, Anders Jr., in Davenport, Iowa.

* * * * *

Carol Anderson left on August 25th for a 2½ month stay in Australia. She will be visiting with her brother and sister-in-law, Sid and Pat Anderson.

* * * * *

Bob and Janette Burt have enjoyed a busy summer with many visitors. In July they had a visit from Bob's sister, Margaret Robson of Kelowna, B.C. They travelled to Calgary to see their daughter, Lori Voloshin, and family.

The Burts then hosted a Johannson family reunion in their home. Some of the guests attending were: Mr. and Mrs. John Potter and daughter Rene and fiance Dean Purwio of Arizona; Mr. and Mrs. Len Christman of Fort St. John; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Smith; and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Burt of Edmonton.

Then arriving was Janette's sister-in-law, Ileen Johannson, from Surrey, B.C. Travelling with her was her daughter, Linda, and granddaughter, Theresa. Her other daughter, Sandy Goodwin, and children Mike and Lindy from Grande Prairie, joined them in Devon for a pleasant stay.

In August the Burts enjoyed the company of their daughter-in-law, Rosemarie, and Shannon and Michelle, from Nova Scotia.

* * * * *

On August 15th Janette Burt directed the choir for an interfaith church service at the Calmar Agricultural Fair.

* * * * *

Anders Anderson is administering a lottery for the Canadian Ski Association. It will begin on September 1, 1982, and for further details and information contact Anders at 487-8788.

Old-Time Accordion Festival

Bert Olson

by Olaf Sveen

The old time international accordion championships were held in Kimberley, B.C. the second weekend in July. It was a great success — there were 68 contestants — more than ever before — and more people than usual came to see and listen.

Many of the contestants were of Scandinavian origin, and they came from all over.

I will say that most popular of them all was Bert Olson from Edmonton. He was 91 years old in January, and became the winner in the Golden Age class. There was more-than-usual loud applause every time Bert came on stage.

The very first number he played was "Norska valsen"; this number is said to be older than the hills, but I have a feeling Bert is older. He is a remarkably good player for his age.

The Happy Hans open class was won by Allan Valberg from Calgary; second was Agnar Tollefsen; and third Jon Persson. Jon comes from Seattle, Washington. He claims he is half Norwegian and half Swedish, but he doesn't know which half is which. One contestant came from Kalispell, Montana; he was of Scottish origin and had trouble playing the schottish or reinlender. Maybe they dance and play it differently in Scotland.

All in all, there were contestants of all ages, and maybe about half of them were girls.

This is the fourth time I have been a judge at the championships in Kimberley; the two others this year were Edwin Erickson and Leo Aquino, and I am glad to say that never has the quality of playing been better.

Besides the competitions, there was a workshop conducted by Leo Aquino, and The Lethbridge Accordion Symphony played a number of so-called serious pieces. Being a judge, I had to work hard in Kimberley this time, but now that I am back home and think back, I realize with all the beautiful music I heard and the nice scenery I saw it was worth it.

The Norwegian Fjord Horse

— Origin in Norway —

The Norwegian Fjord horse is one of the very few surviving races of horses that has maintained its original characteristics. It probably descends from the ancient race of Nordic horses, which in turn appears to have come from the east (in this case Russia or Mongolia).

It is therefore probable that the Fjord horse is related to the Central Asian wild horse, the Przewalski, which migrated from Asia to Norway. By 2000 B.C. these small horses were domesticated and grave findings reveal the skeleton of the Fjord to be much the same as today's, only smaller. By the 1700's, they had grown to stand 10 to 12 hands high, and by the 1800's, had continued to grow from 12 to 13 hands high.

— Name —

The official name of the breed is Fjordhorse, in daily speech referred to as "Fjording". At one time the official name was "Westlandhorse" and before that "Northfjordhorse" or "Northfjording".

— Colour and Markings —

The main characteristics of the Fjord are colour and markings. It is the only one of the domestic breeds which has maintained its original colour, "the wild colour", which is dun (or buckskin). The real "wild colours" are brown dun, red dun and grey. The other two fjord horse colours, Ulsdun (very light) and yellow, are brought out by a combination of the wild colour and the basic dun colour. All these main colours will appear in lighter and dark shades.

Along with the dun colour, one finds the so-called primitive markings and offcolours. These are the dark colour in the forelock, mane and tail, dark dorsal stripe along the back, and "zebra stripes" on the legs. Occassionally stripes are to be found across the neck as well.

The most common Fjord horse colour is brown dun. In recent years, more than 90% of the registered horses have been of this colour. The markings or offcolours on this type are black or dark brown.

Red dun horses have reddish-brown offcolours, never black. In some cases they can also have a completely white forelock mane and tail.

Grey horses have black or dark grey offcolours. White horses have very light bodycolour and black or grey offcolours. Also, the legs can be dark up to the knees. Yellow dun horses can have darker yellow offcolours, never black. Forelock, mane and tail can be completely white. Offcolours on this type are usually indistinct.

— Characteristics —

From ancient times the Fjord horse has had a reputation for its good qualities. In his "Handbook for Horselovers", published around the turn of the century, the well-known Swedish horseman, Count C.G. Wrangel, says: "This inconspicuous pony is by nature endowed with a tremendous stamina, a surprising ability to pull and carry, an excellent trotting action, and a temperament of the very gentlest kind."

Today, when so many people with little or no horse experience are buying horses, it is all the more important that the horse is of a well-balanced and gentle nature; qualities most Fjords possess. It is not easily spooked, keeps calm in difficult situations and is energetic.

The Fjord is known for being agile and surefooted in difficult terrain, which makes it an ideal horse for mountain packing or riding.

Another of the Fjord horse's

highly valued assets is that it is a very good keeper, and usually does very well on hay alone.

The Fjord is a square, compact, strong, well-muscled animal with large, dark, gentle and wide set eyes. A small, neat, well-shaped concave head, with small alert ears, broad forehead and large jaws, is set on a powerful neck that merges into heavy shoulders. They have little withers, are deep in the girth and have short legs with lots of bone, making them surefooted and hard to blemish. The average height for the modern day Fjord is 13.2 to 14.2 hands high and weighing between 1,000 and 1,350 pounds.

All Fjords have a charming, gentle disposition with lots of personality and enjoy people. This disposition even shows in the newborn foal who loves to have children or adults pet and scratch it. They are an ideal horse for those with little horse experience wishing to buy a good, gentle natured horse. They do not frighten easily and react calmly in a bad situation, waiting patiently until someone comes to help.

The gait of a Fjord is relatively smooth with a good walk or trot that will eat up the miles whether you ride or drive them.

— Breeding and Organization —

In 1850, the Norwegian Government started its own breeding program to improve the herd. Only the very best males were kept for stallions and these were taken around the countryside to be used on farmer's mares. The Government still keeps the stud book, with mares and stallions being shown for an accurate assessment of their quality. Only after approval at their three year old show are they eligible for registration.

The Fjord is being bred all over Norway, from north to south. The breeding is organized through local horsebreeder's groups which in turn are connected with district associations. These district breeding associations together form the "Norwegian Fjordhorse Association". The studs are usually owned by the district associations, but some are privately owned.

Official exhibitions with judging of stallions and mares are held in many parts of the country, usually in early summer and fall, the main stallion exhibition is held in late April-early May at Nonfjordeid, in the province of Sogn & Fjordane. The official studbook comes out once a year and is published by: Statens Stambokkontor, Moerve. 12, 1430 °As, Norway.

In today's breeding programs, the emphasis is on an all-round horse suitable for today's needs (work as well as leisure), and a horse with a good temperament and good movements.

— The Fjord's Uses —

In earlier days the Fjord's main use was as a faithful draft animal in agriculture and as a cart horse. Even today many small farms use Fjords with good economical results despite the availability of machinery. However, it is as an "all round" horse that it has its greatest value.

The Fjord has, as a breed, shown its remarkable ability to keep up with the times. When tourism started expanding, during the last century, this breed quickly became known throughout Europe. It soon developed a reputation for being tough and willing, having a great capacity for carrying and pulling besides being very good natured.

As a saddle horse, the Fjord first came to be appreciated outside of Norway. In Holland and Sweden there are riding stables where the Fjord is the dominant breed, and it is unmatched as a horse for the handicapped.

In appearance, the Fjord doesn't look like a jumper, but in Europe it has won many jumping competitions for ponies. It has also been used successfully in dressage.

— The Fjord in the Army —

Because of its agility and surefootedness, the Fjord is highly valued by the military, being able to go where motorized vehicles and heavier horses must give up. Generals Eisenhower and Montomery both spoke with admiration about the Fjord horse on their inspection tours in Norway. In international "army horse circles", the Fjord is openly recognized as the best mountain army horse in the world.

— The Fjord in Other Countries —

It was in the last century that the Fjord became known outside of Norway's borders, and the interest in buying genuine Norwegian Fjordhorses increased quickly. For instance, two grey Fjords were sent to the Queen of Romania in 1880. Denmark has imported an exceptional number and this breed is now the most numerous in that country. Other countries with large numbers of Fjordhorses are West Germany, Sweden, Holland, France, Great Britain, and some in the United States and Canada.

— The Fjord Horse in Canada —

On May 1, 1977, the Canadian Fjord Horse Association was formed through the co-operation of Fjord owners and those interested in the Fjord horse. With a form of communication established between owners of stallions and mares, information on bloodlines was exchanged to promote the growth of the breed. Since then, the Fjord population in Canada has grown to over one hundred.

Today Fjord horses can be found in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec and Nova Scotia. The Association has not heard of Fjords being raised in the other provinces.

An Annual meeting will continue to be held each year, the last Saturday in April, for the election of Officers and Directors, rule changes, etc., and a general meeting is held each fall. A Directors' meeting will be held in July.

— Executive 1981-1982 —

President .....Orville Unrau
Vice-President....Anna Middleton
Directors....Betty Ellis, Irene Lee, Ester Minty

Anyone desiring more information about **The Canadian Fjord Horse Association** can write or phone the Association at:

Canadian Fjord Horse Association
P.O. Box 495
Sundre, Alberta T0M 1X0
(403) 638-4264

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(FROM "IMPRESSIONS")

Mad prairie mariner of Macrorie

When the two flatcar-loads of sheet steel, cable, brass and oak planking arrived at the tiny village of Macrorie, Saskatchewan on September 7, 1929, the town's gossip mill went into overtime. Who in God's name had the money around here to buy half a trainful of shiny new building materials, when drought and the stockmarket crash had already thrown the prairie economy into a reeling recession? Nobody in his right mind was investing precious dollars in new buildings or equipment. When word got around that the shipment belonged to Tom Sukanen, an eccentric Finnish-Canadian homesteader who farmed a quarter section 10 kilometers south of town, the mystery only deepened. Nobody understood that old codger at the best of times; now what was he up to, with his peculiar ways and his weird ideas?

To no one's surprise, Tom Sukanen had little to say on the subject. The burly, taciturn farmer, who lived in a silo-shaped house topped by a revolving periscope through which he kept an eye on the surrounding prairie, simply muscled his 400-pound sheets of steel onto a horse-drawn wagon and hauled them back to the homestead. He lived alone, maintaining little contact with his neighbors or relatives, and for the next several weeks he fended off even his brother Svente's persistent questions about his plans for all that expensive lumber and brass. All Svente could report after a brief visit was that Tom's kitchen table had been covered with piles of maps and mariners' charts, and that Tom appeared to have added a small forge to his collection of homemade tools and farm equipment. Nobody could figure out what to make of it.

On the face of it, the things that made Old Tom notorious weren't particularly strange at all. In fact, some were downright brilliant. He'd built the first steam-powered threshing machine in the district and had assembled a working sewing machine of scrap iron, a wheel and a bucket of bolts. The box-like contraption that had exploded near a neighbor-woman's face turned out to be his version of a magnesium-lit pinhole camera, and the violin he'd made played just as well as the violins in the Eaton's catalogue, by all reports. He'd even built himself an ingenious tricycle one didn't have to pedal; it worked on the fulcrum principle, like a railroad handcar.

"No, the thing about Tom was that he was always kind of spooky," one elderly Macrorie woman who still remembered Tom Sukanen told me. "He was always polite, I don't think he ever harmed a soul, but...well...I don't know. All I can tell you is that for some reason I was always frightened to death of him."

"He never ever laughed," a former Macrorie farmer elaborated. "He was the kind of guy, you never knew what he was thinking. He used to go around with one of those big old sailor's compasses tied around his neck. He thought women were always trying to do him some harm, always trying to trip him up. He had some weird ideas, that one."

Tom Sukanen hadn't come to Canada directly from Finland. He'd first tried the United States, where he'd worked in mines and on homesteads for about 10 years, and had married. But nothing had worked out, and in 1911 he'd left his wife and four children behind to walk 970 kilometers north to Macrorie, where his brother had a farm. Tom also laid claim to a quarter section, and this time he succeeded. But when he returned to Minnesota seven years later to retrieve his family, he found his wife dead and buried and his children lost to various foster homes of which no records had been kept. Sukanen turned around and walked back to Macrorie, but this time with little faith in a brighter future. Maybe, he thought, he should never have left Finland. The thought took hold as he trudged along. What had his 20 years in North America amounted to, after all, but a lot of disappointment and trouble? Maybe it had all been just a big mistake. But maybe a mistake not yet too late to rectify. He thought about it all the way up to the Canadian border, and by the time he arrived back at his Saskatchewan homestead, the Finn had made the decision to abandon Canada, abandon North America, and return to his native land.

He must have had more than enough money to buy himself passage back to Finland. His huge purchase of building materials was proof enough of that. But the former shipwright's apprentice had his own ideas about how one returns to one's homeland after two decades of chasing rainbows in the New World, and he had more than his share of stubborn pride as well. He even casually mentioned his plan to one or two neighbors, as they later recalled, but they'd paid no attention to it at the time. Just Tom Sukanen fantasizing again; the crazy coot was always dithering away about something.

Meanwhile, strange structures were taking shape on the open prairie behind Tom Sukanen's barn.

The first, a keel, looked for all the world like the skeleton of a wedge-shaped, flipped-over feed trough, three meters deep and nine meters long.

The second, a hull, more or less echoed the shape of the keel; but was considerably longer, wider and more gracefully curved. It, too, was turned upside down.

The third, a superstructure, appeared to be two odd-looking, six-sided cabins, linked on a 14-meter-long platform and wreathed by a crown of sturdy oak railings.

As the structures grew, very slowly and initially only by fits and starts, the conclusion became more and more unavoidable. Tom Sakanen, that queer old Finn who planted his wheat by the phases of the moon and who was convinced that radio waves were nothing but a government hoax, actually was building himself an ocean-going *ship*. There was no doubt about it. Sketches found years later by Lawrence ('Moon' to his friends) Mullin, first of a growing body of latter-day Sukanen 'aficionados', represented an ocean-going vessel of some 45 meters in length, whose design resembled that of a scaled-down mid-19th-century Scandinavian cargo freighter. "Well of course they all thought he'd *really* flipped his lid this time," Mullin chuckled, tracing a rough outline of the ship for me on his kitchen table. "Out there in the middle of the bald prairie, miles from no place, 17 miles (27 km) from the nearest river and over 1500 miles (2400 km) from the nearest tidewater. Hoo boy, now they darn well *knew* he'd lost his marbles."

Characteristically, Sukanen paid little attention to the amazement and disapproval of his neighbors. In addition to the ongoing carpentry work on the ship's three sections, he now began turning out gears, pulleys, funnels and long lengths of anchor chain in his forge, methodically heating and pounding every hack-sawed piece of sheet metal into shape. With simple and often handmade tools, he laboriously twisted thick planks onto the keel and hull skeletons (to this day no one has puzzled out how he managed to do this all alone), caulked them, sealed them with tar and reinforced them with a second, unlapped layer. For an outer skin he covered the keel with galvanized iron and the hull with steel. He painted the keel section with a sealer coat of horse's blood to counteract the corroding effects of salt water. He fashioned his own drive shaft, propeller and universal joint assembly; he invented a unique and unorthodox waterclock which he intended to use as a navigational instrument. Month after month, year after year he poured every minute he could spare into the ship and it grew steadily, but also agonizingly slowly, for it was a Herculean task and Sukanen refused help from anyone. By the end of the third year his farm had begun to suffer; by the end of the fourth, some of his stock had died of neglect. The gossip in the little town of Macrorie was of little else.

The scheme, in the eyes of the townspeople (Tom's brother included), seemed so preposterous as to amount to an offense against God and Nature. "You've got to remember it was the Dirty Thirties and nobody had a dime," Mullin explained. "Wasting all that money - which was how they saw it - amounted to taking food from starving kids or something, I suppose." Town loafers took to driving out to Sukanen's farm for a lark, to heckle him at his work. More well-intentioned people tried to reason with him, pointing out that the shallow South Saskatchewan River couldn't possibly float his deep-keeled vessel anyway, and urging him to abandon this mad plan before he lost his farm.

Not unexpectedly, Sukanen ignored them all. If anything, their importunings simply drove him to hurl himself at his dream with even greater determination. By 1936 he had stopped farming completely, had sold off what remained of his stock and was working almost round-the-clock on the ship. To feed himself he began to slaughter one after another of his nine splendid plow horses, supplementing his raw-meat diet with handfuls of wheat. When his clothes couldn't be patched any further, he fashioned himself an odd-looking, but entirely serviceable, coverall made of bailer-twine. Day by indefatigable day, hour by arduous hour, the *Sontianen* (Finnish for 'water bug') inched relentlessly toward completion.

Tom's plan, while decidedly unorthodox, was in fact not nearly as harebrained as his neighbors suspected. He was building the ship in three separate sections, both keel and hull being independent, watertight and floatable in less than two meters of water. The cabins were to be loaded onto a large raft equipped with a rudder and motor, and this bizarre convoy dragged 27 km to the Saskatchewan River, launched during spring floodwater and floated through the complex lake and river system of northeast Saskatchewan and northern Manitoba to the deep-water mouth of the Nelson River, on the banks of Hudson Bay. There, Sukanen would assemble the three parts, install the steam engine and boiler, and set off past Greenland and Iceland for the open Atlantic. He estimated the crossing to Finland to take about 50 days.

Meanwhile, certain of the good burghers of Macrorie were becoming increasingly offended at this "bad example for our youth," and the police and civil authorities were being urged on all sides to 'do something' to save this patent madman from himself and his bizarre obsession. The complaints seemed to increase in direct proportion to Sukanen's progress. By the spring of 1937 the hull, keel and cabins were ready to be moved to the river, where Tom had set up his forge to begin work on the engine, boiler, pistons and pumps. The cabins presented few serious problems and served conveniently as living quarters while they lay waiting at the river's edge, but the keel and hull proved far too heavy to be hauled across uneven ground by Tom's last remaining horse. He was eventually reduced to dragging the two sections along, six meters at a time, using a crude and unwieldy system of anchored posts and winches.

The truth was that Tom had more important factors working against him than the censorious townspeople of Macrorie. By the time he began to winch his ship toward the river, he was almost 53 years old. More importantly, he had a deep and uncompromising pride, which did not allow him to accept any help he couldn't pay for, no matter how insignificant or how generously meant. There are still a few Macrorie old-timers who secretly blame themselves for not offering to help Old Tom at this critical stage, particularly since there was plenty of motorized hauling equipment available, but the fact is that Tom would have refused the offer. "Even when he was shivering and starving during the bad winter of

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Next Deadline
SEPTEMBER 15, 1982

VASA ORDER OF AMERICA

30th Grand Lodge Convention

Seattle, Washington - June 19-25, 1982

by Linnea Lodge

Pacific Northwest No. 13 District hosted the convention that meets each four years. Mary Ann Nilson was Convention Chairman and her Committee provided a very active week and was carried out in an Indian theme.

JUNE 18, FRIDAY

Registration and reception was hosted by the Marriott Hotel at SeaTac airport as delegates and visitors assembled in Seattle from all parts of the U.S.A., Canada and Sweden.

JUNE 19, SATURDAY

Andrew Wendell, Grand Master presided over the opening ceremonies when new delegates were initiated into the Grand Lodge. The official opening ceremonies followed when all could attend. Members of Nobel Lodge No. 184, Portland, Oregon, wearing 1915 ceremonial robes formed the honor guard while all Grand Lodge Officers were introduced by young adults of Pacific Northwest District No. 13. Flags of the United States, Canada, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland and Finland were presented by Past District Masters. Welcome from District Master Leo Olson and greetings from Dick Nelson, Washington State Legislator followed. Entertainment portion included Children Club dancers, Seattles' Swedish Womens Chorous and Marita Brunback, Valhalla Lodge No. 612, New Westminster, B.C.

Saturday evening was a 45 minute cruise on Puget Sound to Kiana Lodge, Blake Island Marine State Park where we were entertained with original interpretive dances of the Pacific Northwest Indians. While we watched the performance everyone was welcome to a steaming bowl of clams and nectar. Later in the lodge a complete meal with Indian baked salmon was featured. During the evening Grand Lodge Officers were given suitable Indian names to carry with them during the week.

JUNE 20, SUNDAY

Church services were held at the hotel for the convenience of the delegates. All hymns used were Swedish melodies and Pastor Stabbert conducted the service. We were then taken to the 15 acre site known as Vasa Park Resort at Bellevue, Washington on Lake Sammamish. The birch trees that outline the park were planted from seed brought from Sweden. Many of the other trees including hawthorne, mountain ash, wygelia and lilac also were brought either by seed or small seedlings from Sweden. This park has been opened to the public and is being used for company picnics, overnight travellers and people who enjoy the many facilities found in the park. As this was midsummer the program was designed around this event. A picnic luncheon was available for all convention folk. During the whole day entertainment of various kinds was presented with the performance at the Band Shell being highlighted by singing and folk dancing.

JUNE 21, MONDAY

This was the first day of Grand Lodge in session, so many visitors took a bus tour of the City of Seattle. As Grand Lodge Cultural Director for Canada I was permitted to conduct a cultural leadership workshop with about 200 in attendance from Canada, Sweden and many parts of the U.S.A. Two films - Advantage Sweden and a Swedish Heritage of Alberta were shown.

JUNE 22, TUESDAY

A tour of the Boeing Company facilities at Everett, Washington, which is the home of superjet 747 and twinjet 767 became a morning visit. The assembly plant is located on a 773 acre site where the main structure covers 65 acres and is 11 stories high. As you stand on the observation platform inside this building it does not seem so massive until you compare the size of the project that the tradespeople are working on. You see personel cycling from one station to another which also gives some idea of distance.

JUNE 23, WEDNESDAY

There was no business session so everyone could join the trip to Victoria, B.C. on the Princess Marguerite. The boat departs at 8:00 a.m. and returns 9:45 p.m. This allows five hours to explore the city and side trips like Butchart Gardens.

Each person could choose the activity that interested them most. There 490 Vasa members out for this day and many enjoyed shopping with the advantage of the American dollar. Dining facilities on the boat were excellent. Many used their time wisely and met in committees during the boat travel. During the return trip the Swedish delegation organized a singsong on the deck and provided a 23 page booklet for anyone who wished to sing along. Unfortunately I did not know all the songs but I now have decided that I am bilingual.

JUNE 24, THURSDAY

Another bus tour was organized to Woodinville to an 87 acre estate winery of Ste. Michelle. The Chateau is styled after a French country Chateau built in 1912 and has been carefully preserved. The tour included areas for viewing of crushing, fermentation, barrel aging, processing, bottling and storage. We were able to taste various types of wine and enjoyed a good luncheon in the dining room.

In the evening a tour of the Seattle Center, site of the 1962 World's Fair found many taking a trip up into the Space Needle. There is a lot of activity in the building providing the food booths. We watched performances of various ethnic dances which included two Swedish folk dances.

JUNE 25, FRIDAY

Many presentations to Grand Lodge and the Archives at Bishop Hill, Illinois were made during the morning. I was pleased to gift a copy of the film Swedish Heritage in Alberta which includes the memorable day of September 9, 1978 when the road sign was unveiled recognizing the Swedish Pioneer in Alberta. That project is very special to me as I took quite an active roll so that it might become a realization.

Election of Officers and installation provided the following -

the first woman to head this international organization,
Grand Master - Alice Carlson, West Millbury, Massachusets
Vice Grand Master - Carl Lindquist, Woodland Hills, California
Grand Secretary - Gladys Birtwistle, Landisville, Pennsylvania
Vice Grand Secretary - Betzy Geffken, Staten Island, New York
Grand Treasurer - Kenneth Larson, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Past Grand Master - Andrew Wendell, San Gabriel, California
Members of the Executive Board - George Nord, Hopatcong, New Jersey; Richard Horngren, Oak Creek, Wisconsin; Lloyd Erickson, Stockton, California; Margareta Ekenstam, Stockholm, Sweden.

The Grand Banquet seated 630 guests as well as the head table guests. Senator Henry M. Jackson, Honorary Life Member of Trofast Lodge No. 231, Everett was the keynote speaker.

Highlights of the past four years business include -

-Queen Silvia of Sweden accepted an Honorary Membership in the Grand Lodge.
-Cookbook project has had two printings of 10,000 each.
-History Book is being updated from 1974.
-Celebration of 85th Anniversary of Vasa Order of America.
-Junior Stamp issued to promote furtherance of Educational Fund.
-Slide and Film Program has been enlarged with a recent addition of Viking Exhibit in New York City.
-John Hanson Stamp issued by the Post Office Dept. U.S.A. to honor the 200th anniversary of John Hanson the first President of the Continental Congress, dedicated in the city of his birth, Frederick, Maryland.
-Scholarship program - 39 scholarships were granted of which James Johnson, son of Evelyn and the late I.E. (Don) Johnson won the 1981 Grand Scholarship of $1500.00. One student was sent to Sjolunden Summer Camp in Sweden.
-Microfilming project - 240 Lodges have had their records completed and 90% of the Vasa Star has been filmed.

Skandia Lodge No. 549 is in the top ten largest Lodges, we rank seventh in the whole organization which is one above Norden Lodge Nol, District No. 1 in Connecticut.

Vasa Order of America, Archives Inc. Bishop Hill, Illinois is the National Archive and acts as guardians and preservers of the recorded Vasa heritage. Records dating back to 1883 are part of the growing list of Vasa history.

Elected Officers for the next term are: President Bertil Winstrom, Mequon, Wisconsin; Secretary-Assistant Treasurer Carl Fredrickson, Elmwood Park, Illinois; Financial Secretary Roy Nelson, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

All records of the Swedish-American of the Year are filed within the Archive.

Recipients for the past four years are:

1979 - Nils Y. Wessel, a Professor and Director at Tufts University, Chairman of Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Chairman of the Swedish Council of America.
1980 - Signe Karlstrom a strong leader in the Detroit Swedish Council who worked with several Swedish-American cultural programs in her home town and contributed greatly to preserving Swedish culture in U.S.A.
1981 - Curtis L. Carlson, a well known business man from Minneapolis who supports cultural work in Swedish-American and cultural ties between America and Sweden.
1982 - Russell W. Peterson, ex-governor of Delaware and now president of the Audubon Society, Dr. Peterson also served as Director of Research and Development for DuPont.

Selection is made in conjunction with the Swedish Foreign Office but Vasa in Sweden makes all arrangements for honoring the Swedish American each year in Sweden which begins on July 4.

The next convention will be held in the New York area in 1986.

Mad prairie mariner of Macrorie

cont'd from page 7

'41, he absolutely refused to accept the handful of eggs I tried to give him," a former neighbor told me, still perplexed and offended at Tom's resolute intransigence.

By the fall of 1940 the hull and keel had been moved only three kilometers. With the coming of winter, Tom temporarily abandoned his work on the winches and threw himself into the construction of *Sontianen's* engine and boiler parts. He seemed to realize he was in a race against time; his strength was not what it had been and his teeth were rotting away. "All he was eating by this time was spoiled horse meat and wheat chaff," the neighbor continued. "He lived in squalor; he was so dirty you could hardly see any white skin on him anymore. But he just kept on banging away with that hammer as if he would never quit; it was just like a clock, you know: day and night, day and night."

By spring, 1941, the boiler was done. By fall, so was the engine. "How in hell he ever managed to roll and rivet that thing into shape without heating it is beyond me," a CPR engineer told Mullin many years later. "You're not supposed to be able to do that with cold steel half-an-inch thick."

Unfortunately, those accomplishments were also Tom Sukanen's last. The propulsion system was now complete, but the ship itself still lay almost 24 kilometers away from the river on the open prairie, and Tom no longer had the strength to winch it any closer. His health was gone, all his teeth had fallen out; he couldn't even chew his mouldy wheat chaff anymore. In a typical Sukanen rally he limped over to his forge and made himself a set of teeth. But when the police and some of the townspeople arrived several weeks later to halt his work on a technical charge of "obstructing the King's thoroughfare," they found Old Tom still at his forge, still with hammer in hand, but too weak and delirious to be able to lift it. They took Tom away to a mental hospital in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, where he lingered for some months. Less than a year after his admission to the institution, Tom Sukanen died from the results of severe malnutrition.

FOR THE CONCLUSION OF THE MAD PRAIRIE MARINER SEE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE!

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